

BOROUGH OF SOUTHWOLD.ANNUAL REPORT of the Medical Officer of Health, for the year 1949.

To: The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors  
of the Borough of Southwold.



Sir, Ladies & Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report on the Health of the Borough for the year 1949.

I must acknowledge the willing assistance of the Town Clerk, Sanitary Inspector and all other Borough officials during the course of the year.

During 1949, Dr. A. A. Gilmour was Medical Officer of Health until 12. 6. 1949. From then until 15. 7. 1949 when I took over my appointment, Dr. A. C. Gee, Medical Officer of Health of Lowestoft dealt with any matters requiring attention.

General Statistics:-

Area in acres	-	624
Registrar General's Estimate of the Population (Mid.1949)	-	2,443
No. of inhabited houses	-	1,124
Ratable value	-	£23,100.

Vital Statistics:-

	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Total Live Births	17	16	33
Illegitimate Births	-	1	1

Birth Rate:-

per 1,000 Resident Population  
= 13.5  
(England and Wales 16.7)

Stillbirths:- Nil.

Maternal Mortality:- Nil.

Infantile Mortality:-

(Deaths of Infants under one year of age)

<u>Total</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
2	1	1
Infantile Mortality Rate = 60.6 per 1,000 live births.		

<u>Deaths:-</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
	48	22	26

Death Rate:-

per 1,000 estimated population  
= 19.6  
(England and Wales 11.7)

Causes of Death:-

	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>
Influenza	-	1
Cancer	3	8
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	-	3
Heart Diseases	7	5
Bronchitis	2	2
Pneumonia	1	2
Other Respiratory Diseases	1	-
Appendicitis	-	1
Other digestive Diseases	-	1
Nephritis	3	3
Congenital Malformations and Birth Injuries	1	-
Suicide	1	-
All other cases	5	-
	<u>22</u>	<u>26</u>

Comparative Table for the last Five Years:-

	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1949 England & Wales.
Population	1756	2209	2397	2391	2443	
Births	31	36	44	37	33	
Birth Rate per 1,000	17.6	16.3	18.4	15.5	13.5	16.7
Deaths	41	35	47	39	48	
Death Rate per 1,000	23.3	14.9	15.4	16.3	19.6	11.7
Infant Deaths	2	1	-	1	2	
Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 live Births	64.5	27.7	4.4	27.0	60.6	32

Infectious Diseases:-

During the year the following cases of Infectious Diseases were notified:-

Whooping Cough	-	37
Pneumonia	-	8
Measles	-	6
Scarlet Fever	-	4
Jaundice	-	2

Tuberculosis:-

	<u>Male</u>		<u>Female</u>		<u>Total</u>
	<u>Pulm.</u>	<u>Non. Pulm.</u>	<u>Pulm.</u>	<u>Non. Pulm.</u>	
(1) Number of Cases of Tuberculosis on Register at commencement of year	10	3	4	6	23
(2) Number of cases notified under Regulations of 1930 for first time during year	1	-	-	-	
(3) Number of cases RESTORED to the Register during the year	-	-	-	-	
(4) Number of cases added to the Register during the year OTHERWISE THAN BY NOTIFICATION	1	-	-	-	
(5) Number of cases removed from the Register during the year	1	-	-	2	
(6) Number of cases remaining on the Register at the end of year	11	3	4	4	22

The responsibility for hospital treatment of infectious diseases rests with the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board. A full time chest Consultant has recently been appointed to the Northern area of East Suffolk.

Infant Welfare Centre:-

No facilities were available during 1949: the new centre was opened in January 1950.

National Assistance Act 1948, Section 47:-

No action was required for the removal to suitable premises of people in need of care and attention.

Water Supply:-

The water supply has been satisfactory in quality and quantity. Bacteriological examination of the water which is chlorinated was reported satisfactory by the Norwich Laboratory of the Public Health Laboratory Service.

The following reports have been kindly supplied by the Southwold Water Company:-

Analysis of a sample of water taken from Quay Lane Pumping Station, Reydon, Suffolk.

This sample has slight opalescence and deposit but the turbidity is not marked. It is free from metals apart from a trace of iron and a negligible trace of manganese. The water is on the acid side of neutrality and has an appreciable content

of free carbon dioxide. A corrosive tendency towards metals would therefore be anticipated but no plumbo-solvent action or undue corrosion of copper would be expected. The water is hard in character but not unduly so and contains no excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. It is of the highest standard of organic quality and of satisfactory bacterial purity.

These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

Reduction of the content of free carbon dioxide, say, by aeration would restrain corrosive activity.

16th March, 1950.

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Analysis of a sample of water taken from the Alder Carr Pumping Station, Reydon, Suffolk.

This sample is practically clear and bright in appearance and free from iron and other metals. The water is almost neutral in reaction but it has a very appreciable content of free carbon dioxide. A corrosive tendency towards metals would be anticipated but no plumbo-solvent action or undue corrosion of copper would be expected. The water is very hard in character though not excessively so and it contains no excess of mineral or saline constituents in solution. It is of the highest standard of organic and bacterial purity.

These results are consistent with a pure and wholesome water suitable for public supply purposes.

Reduction of the content of free carbon dioxide by, say, aeration would restrain corrosive activity.

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Food Poisoning:- No cases were notified.

Diphtheria Immunisation:- The County Medical Officer has kindly supplied the following information:-

Pre-school Population (0-4)	193
School Population (5-14)	263
No. of pre-school children immunised	103 (53.4%)
Total No. of Children Immunised	124 (55.7%)
"Booster" treatment 1949.	4

I am, Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

*G. H. H. Aubie*

Medical Officer of Health.

Town Hall,  
SOUTHWOLD.

11th August, 1950.

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